



THE

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NEW HIGH QUALITY BOOK ON MEDIEVAL LITHUANIAN NUMISMATICS PUBLISHED BY

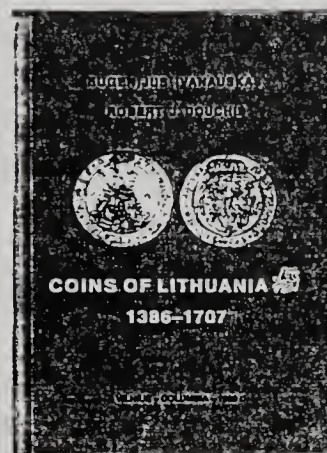
EXPERTS

Robert J. Douchis and Eugenijus Ivanauskas have just published their 270-page book, *COINS OF LITHUANIA 1386-1707*. It is the first catalogue on the subject of early Lithuanian numismatics to be printed in the English language. The authors, Ivanauskas and Douchis, conducted extensive research over a four year period personally verifying each entry. They corrected the errors of previous cataloguers that were not as diligent in checking original source materials or collections. Their efforts have resulted in a work of standard reference quality. Published in Lithuania, the hard-cover 8.5 by 6 format is printed on 270 semigloss pages and is sewn bound for durability, "unlike some other numismatic books that have been published in recent years using the glue method that come apart in no time," quipped Douchis recently at his presentation at the LNA meeting in Chicago.

Nearly 500 black and white photographs illustrated on 51 plates depict the obverse/reverse of actual coins examined by the authors. They attribute 284 different types and describe 1,210 varieties in detail. Each coin is assigned a unique identification number. The rarity of each coin is noted and a valuation is given in US dollars. Additionally, there are 22 tables depicting rulers, mints and various mint marks. Each rulers coins are prefaced with historical background information.

Eugenijus Ivanauskas of Kaunas, Lithuania is an archaeologist with the Ministry of Culture. He has had numerous numismatic articles published in Europe. Robert J. Douchis of Columbia, Maryland is a co-founder of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association. He subsequently served as its Director for 17 years. The duo hope this endeavor will stimulate further research in early Lithuanian numismatics.

Coins of Lithuania 1386-1707 is available in the U.S. for \$50.00 which includes postage. Priority Mail delivery is available for \$3.25 additional. Only 500 copies were produced, so our LNA members are encouraged to



get their orders in early. Orders may be placed with Robert J. Douchis, P.O. Box 612, Columbia, Maryland 21045. In Europe, the price is 210 Lt. or equivalent funds postpaid. Orders should be placed with Eugenijus Ivanauskas, v. Kreves 31-73, Kaunas, Lithuania. Dealer inquiries are invited.

LNA MEETING HELD IN CHICAGO AUGUST 14

Our Lithuanian Numismatic Association met on Saturday, August 14 at the American Numismatic Convention in Rosemont, Illinois. Ten persons attended our meeting, which was held at the same time as several major numismatic events at the Convention.

In attendance were: Pekka M. Viljanen, Edward Mikutis, Michael A. Bearman (age 9), Michael Bearman, Benjamin Bearman, Neil Shafer, Robert J. Douchis, Dick DeRobertis, Anthony Tumonis, and Frank Passic.

Attendees drooled at several rarities that were brought to show our fellow members, including an authentic long kapa, a set of 1925 silver "proof record" 1-2-5 litai coins, and a proof record 50 centų piece previously unknown; a

(Continued on page 10...)

BALTIC WAY COMMEMORATIVE COIN ISSUED

On Monday, August 16, the Bank of Lithuania issued a commemorative 50 litų coin marking the 10th anniversary of the Baltic Way. As with other commemoratives of this type, this proof coin is made of .925 silver, weighs 28.28 grams, and measures 38.61 mm. in diameter. The mintage is 4,000 pieces.

The obverse features the contemporary Vytis coat-of-arms, with the legend "LIETUVA 50 LITŲ."

The reverse features six joined hands with national motifs in pairs of two, with the legend, "BALTIJOS KELIUI-10, LIETUVA LATVIJA ESTIJA" meaning, "Ten years for the Baltic Way, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia."

The edge of the coin is inscribed "VILNIUS RYGA TALINAS," meaning "Vilnius, Riga, Tallinn," the capitals of the three Baltic countries.

The coin was designed by sculptor Gediminas Karalius and were minted at the Lithuanian Mint in Vilnius.

The Bank of Lithuania also issued a circulation 1 litas version of the coin with a mintage of 1 million pieces. The design is the same, except for the denomination designation, and contains a rimmed-at-intervals edge. The copper-nickel coin is 22.3 mm. in diameter, and weighs 6.25 grams.

A brochure issued by the Bank of Lithuania contained the following information:

On August 23, 1989, the European highway marked number 12 connecting Vilnius and Tallinn via Riga became a lifeblood artery, a chain joined by hands and hearts of the Baltic people. At seven sharp in the evening after a signal was transmitted by radio many thousands of like-minded people, Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians formed themselves into a line by joining their hands thus making the Baltic Way, a meaningful symbol of liberation of the three occupied states and subjugated nations.

Invited by supporting groups of regional councils of the Movement for Reformation of Lithuania, organizations of the National Fronts of Latvia and Estonia, the people of the three occupied Baltic States gathered to express their peaceful and rightful aim to reestablish the independence of their countries.

A live chain made of hundreds of thousands of people strung out from the ancient Gediminas castle in Vilnius to the heart of Tallinn, Herman Tower, via Ukmergė, Panevėžys, Pasvalys, Bauska, the Monument of Freedom in Riga, Alnāžis and Parnu. About 500-700 thousand residents of Lithuania, 350 thousand residents of Latvia, and at least 200,000 thousand residents of Estonia joined together in a line along a highway of 650 km. Tens of thousands of people unable to reach the main highway, gathered in the approaching roads and formed branching chains no less meaningful than the main chain.



On that day the Baltic States looked irre recognizable. Grave and tragic events of the 50th anniversary of the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact were reflected in a solemn thoughtfulness and spiritual fortitude of the people. In the live chain, colored with August flowers one could see black ribbons of mourning and lights of candles reminding of victims and tremendous painful losses.

[The brochure then spends several paragraphs describing the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact, the annexation of the Baltic Countries, and the years of occupation.]

On July 15, 1989, the representatives of the National Liberation Movements of all three Baltic nations met in Parnu Estonia and decided to set up a common action of solidarity, the Baltic Way, by a live chain of people linking Vilnius, Riga and Tallinn and demonstrating to the Soviet authority and the nations of the world their unity and resolution to achieve independence and freedom.

The Baltic Way was the greatest manifestation of solidarity in the history of the three nations. The action represented a direct appeal to the conscience and morality of the world that proved the unanimous perception of the Baltic people of historical truth, as well as the maturity of their national self-consciousness. In fact, it should be treated as a Baltic phenomenon in the depersonalized and humiliated Soviet society.

The Baltic Way obviously spurred European political sceptics to refrain from Gorbachev's euphoria and urged them to continue their non-recognition de facto of the occupation of the three Baltic States by the Soviets.

The parliamentary way of the reestablishment of the three nations of their independent states was far from easy and painless but it bore fruit. For the second time in the 20th century, the Baltic nations established their states on the map of Europe by taking the line of peaceful resistance and implementing a legal parliamentary way of the restoration of the states sovereignty. Written by Dr. Česlovas Bauža.

KOLEKCIJA MAGAZINE OF LITHUANIAN COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Perhaps you have noticed we have been featuring a number of articles on medieval Lithuanian numismatics, and even 20th century items with "new" authors in recent months. This is because of the wonderful publication of the Lithuanian Association of Collectors, the Lietuvos Kolekcininkų Asociacija.

Their magazine, KOLEKCIJA, is produced in glossy, color format and covers a variety of collecting topics. To date they have produced 6 editions, all filled with interesting articles. Many of the numismatic ones have been by our own LNA member Aleksandras Kubilas.

At present we are looking for our LNA members to volunteer to translate some for this editor so we can feature more. We say a special thank you to Algirdas Kepalas who has helped us tremendously in the past several months.

The editor of KOLEKCIJA is Balys Sriubas, and his address is: J. Basanavavičiaus 6, 2001 Vilnius, Lithuania.

The nice thing about this magazine is the new resource material, as authors now have access to Lithuanian documents in archives that were heretofore unavailable during the Soviet occupation of Lithuania.

Each issue contains several articles each about the following general categories: Art, Phaleristics, Numismatics, Bonistics, Photography, Postcards, Philately, Books, Periodicals, Military Decorations, and other topics as appropriate.

For example, in the 1998 issue No. 6 we find the titles of the following articles: The Cross of Vytyis No. 1. The rare star-badges of Šiauliai firemen; Where has the portugaler of Stephen Batory disappeared?; Did Ladislas Vasa mint Lithuanian coins?; Two Strange Coins; The Sigismund Denar of 1559 (featured in this issue of The Knight); Was Constantines rouble in Kaunas?; and Paper money of Klaipėda.

This magazine is approximately 120 pages in length, and costs U.S. \$15 each, plus \$5 postage (these are heavy). For those LNA members who read Lithuanian and "can't wait" for us to have the articles translated into English and printed here, I suggest subscribing to this very educational journal. I enjoy especially enjoy the high-quality photographs that accompany each article.



At the end of each magazine there is an English summary of each article, and an English table of contents. This month we illustrate the cover of the 1998 issue No. 6 of KOLEKCIJA. The cover features a color painting of Lithuanian President Antanas Smetona.

ZERBE MEMORIAL AWARD WINNER TYPED LITHUANIAN

Congratulations to Kenneth Hallenbeck, the 1999 American Numismatic Association Farran Zerbe Memorial Award winner. A native of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Ken is a well known numismatist and operates a unique coin show in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Most people do not know this, but during his stint in the service during the early 1950s, Ken was a linguistic typist, and was in charge of typing Lithuanian on one page, and English on the other. He made friends with several Lithuanian immigrants at the time, including Lithuanian General Stasys Raštikas.

Ken was one of our early supporters when we started the LNA in 1978. Ken mentioned to me that he has some photographs of he and his family with General Raštikas. Again, congratulations Ken on your award!



By Stanislovas Sajauskas

[From *Kauno Diena* Nr. 159 (15186) 10 July 1997, pg. 8.

Translated by Algirdas Kepalas]

In the National M.K. Čiurlionis Museum of Art has opened an exposition entitled "The Evolution of Lithuanian National Heraldry" which is to commemorate the day of the coronation of King Mindaugas, the Day of the State. The exhibits from the numismatic section of the Museum display the origins, transformations of historical evolution and importance of the main heraldic symbols of Lithuania.

The oldest and especially important symbol of Lithuanian heraldry is the sign of King Mindaugas of Lithuania in the lead seal discovered in Novgorod. One of possible interpretations of this sign is that it is a silhouette of the cathedral built by Mindaugas who baptized Lithuania. According to Napoleonas Kitkauskas, the ruins of this cathedral were discovered under the foundations of the actual cathedral of Vilnius.

Especially much attention was allotted to the most important symbol, Lithuanian coat-of-arms, the Vytis. The armed warrior appears grown together with his battle friend, the stallion. He is the Lithuanian centaur. The image of Vytis which evokes stubborn battles for Lithuania is extra ordinarily near to a soul of a Lithuanian. Not without a reason our folklore has so many songs about a steed, oldest pictures of Vytis are found in the seals or coins of the 14th century rulers of Lithuania. It is the representation of the ruler which later became Vytis.

During the unheard of, brutal prohibition of the Lithuanian press and national culture in the 19th century the coat of arms of Lithuania was identified with the national renaissance of Lithuania, with the restitution of the free Independent Lithuanian state.

When in 1918 Lithuania won its independence, Vytis was declared the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Lithuania. The artists joined actively to create the coat of

arms. The best known of models of Vytis were created by Adomas Varnas, Juozas Zikaras, Antanas Žmuidzinavičius, Tadas Daugirdas, Mstislavo Dobužinskis, Antanas Galdikas, Petras Rimša. They were widely used in the manufacture of Lithuanias money, seals, securities, postal stamps, designs for office and business. Probably the most artistic was the Vytis of sculptor Juozas Zikaras. It was the one which was accepted by the law of March 20, 1990 as the coat of arms of the restored independent Republic of Lithuania.

Examples show that Vytis kept changing with the changing conception of taste or level of art of each epoch. Even the present coat of arms does change. It can be seen in the Vytis of the lastly issued commemorative 50 litų coins.

Also disclosed are the relations of occupying rulers with Lithuanias Vytis, starting with intentional distortions (in the Czarist Russia, in the Vilnius region occupied by Pilsudskian Poland) and ending with a total ban during the Soviet era. On the other hand, heraldic discrepancies are also shown.

Most of them coming from earlier times reflect the past, rather low level of numismatic and heraldical sciences. Their uncritical transfer into today's heraldry shows how important it is not to spread unfounded elements by presenting them as scientific achievements. Unfortunately even today, the end of the 14th century Lithuanian coins, most authentic and objective source of the oldest national heraldry, are being ignored.

To heraldic discrepancies should be added the so called Vytautas emblem which is being revived as the emblem of the Vytautas the Great special riflemen battalion in Kaunas. The exposition shows the defective denar from the treasure of Verkiai which started this misconception. In it one can clearly see a letter "V," supposed initial of Vytautas which arises

THE MYSTERIOUS BANKNOTE

By Liudas Šilinskas

[From *Kolekcija* No. 5, 1998. Translated into English by Algirdas Kepalas]

Every nation has its history, heroes and destiny.

We have a good occasion once again to look at our past when we celebrate the 80th anniversary of the independence of Lithuania.

In 1938 during the commemoration of the 20th year of independence of Lithuania, there came up a plan to issue a 10 litų banknote, the project of which was conceived by the artist Adomas Galdikas.

The note was printed by Bradbury & Wilkinson Company in England. At first specimens of the note were printed. Then, after they were inspected they were kept at the Bank of Lithuania.

The letter of Bradbury & Wilkinson sent to the Bank of Lithuania on March 13, 1939 shows that the notes were printed. Yet they did not appear in circulation. The company was bombed during WWII, the notes burned during the blaze. [NOTE: that is the opinion of the author of the article.]

Today it is known approximately how many of the notes with the inscription PAVYZDYS (specimen) remain. A small part are kept in private collections, a part floats throughout the world, but most of them are kept in the M. K. Čiurlionis Museum of Art.

Looking at the note one can tell that the workmanship is unusually careful and professional. Very interesting is the composition of the note: all symbols are in their proper places, neither disturbs the other,

VYTIS EMBLEM (Continued from pg. 4)

from a fragment of the Columns of Gediminas shown on the other side of the coin.

Historical national heraldic symbols, Vytis, Vytis cross, Columns of Gediminas, were widely used by Lithuanian guerilla fighters in the freedom battle of Lithuania. With them or for them as for the tri-color the defenders of the Motherland, resistance fighters went to death, to the slave camps or to exile.

It offends when today these important and meaningful signs of national independence or the coat of arms can be seen in the emblems of various businesses or that we are represented to the world by Vytis decorating a bottle of Lithuanian vodka.



everyone complements the other. The color green was used for background with Lithuanian ornaments. The note displays symbols and heraldry of the state which remind of the beginnings of the state: the first young president of independent Lithuania, the Declaration of Independence with signatures, and the Council of Lithuania. It is stressed that the capital of Lithuania is Vilnius.

Describing the 10 litų note of 1938 created by Adomas Galdikas it can be said that it is the most beautiful and most Lithuanian of the notes of the Bank of Lithuania. For us Lithuanians it has an unusual importance. This is a remaining document which perpetuates Lithuania's declaration of independence of 1918.

Why the note is named "Mysterious Banknote" who named it thus, it is hard to tell today. One thing is clear though that during the occupation (1940-1990), everything about it was concealed. Nevertheless, it was kept as a holy historical relic, as a hope to regain the independence preserved by our nation.

NUMISMATIC DICTIONARY

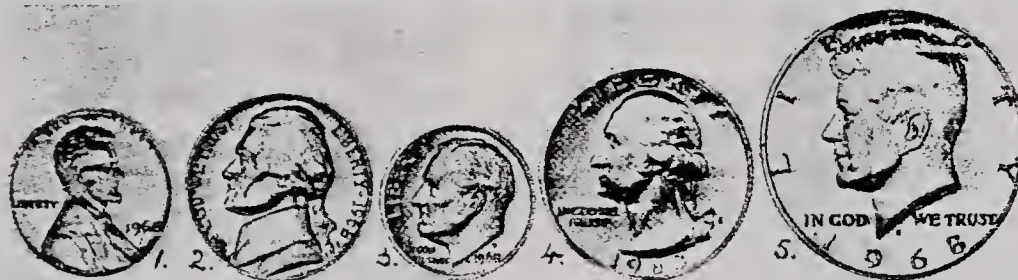
By
Jonas K. Karys 46.



English translation by
V.L.G. Matelis

Continued from last issue....

PORTRETAS/Portraits. In numismatics, on a medal or coin, a design embodying the sculptured picture of a person. With the ancient Greeks, coins were held to be in a mystical bond with a temple, so that any portrait upon it could only be the reflection of some god. At least, on the obverse side of the coin. Even Alexander the Great (336-323 BC) held himself to be a descendant of Heracles, and thus, of divine lineage. So on his coins, he placed not his own, but the portrait of his "ancestor." Only after his death was his likeness substituted for the divinity on Lisimachos coins, though it was still necessary to add something divine to it, so there was attached above his ears the rams horns belonging to the god Ammon (to whom Alexander was "related." Ptolemy Soter of Egypt (323-284 BC) was the first monarch who placed his portrait on coins with no symbols of divinity, but with a regal crown on his head. In Europe, the leader in this sense was Demetrius Poliorketas of Macedon (306-283 BC). With the Romans, as with the Greeks, a living person's head did not appear on coins until in 44 BC, the Senate authorized the portrait of Caesar on the denar. He was followed by Brutus, Cassius, Octavian and others. On Anglo-Saxon coins, portraits first appeared in the 10th century. In the middle ages, portraits of humans on European coins and medals did not distinguish themselves (as did those in Greece) by their artistry and beauty. In general, they were stereotypes, leaning toward the mechanical. Often utterly unreal (for example, in the reign of the young Henry VI of England, coins were struck with the head of a grown man, without spirit). It was only in the 15th and 16th centuries that medallic art springs from the ground and with it, portraits on coins and medals flourish. The influence of the great renaissance sculptors (B. Cellini, L. da Vinci and others) is felt all over Europe. As the modern age matures, truly beautiful portraits of rulers appear on Europe's coins and medals, vibrant with artistic idealism, tempered with elements of realism (i.e. see Testonas). Where and how this spirit developed, progressed or retrogressed, depended on many causes.



Buv. JAV prezidentu portretai: Lincolnas — 1 c. monetoje, Jeffersonas — 5 c., Rooseveltas — 10 c., Vashingtonas — kvoteryje, Kennedis — pusdolery.

PORTUGALER. A gold coin of the value of 10 ducats, kronas, florens, struck during the 16th and 17th centuries in Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Transylvania and elsewhere, imitating the 16th century ten kruzers of Portugal (4000 reis), all most entirely gold, and weighing 39.9 grams. The long inscription of the latter coin began with R:PORTUGALIE...and based upon that, as the ducat started with the word "ducatus" on the Venetian gold piece, it retained the name portugalier. A portion of the portugaliers were struck not directly for circulation, but as presentation pieces, since many of them in reality look more like a medal.

PRAGOS GRAŠIS/Prague Grosh. A substantial Czech coin, originating in the 1300s and soon thereafter spread successfully not only in its own country, but in neighboring lands. At first, it weighed about 3.6 gr. with a silver purity over 0.900, diameter 27 mm. The King of Bohemia, Václav II (1278-1305) began striking the Prague grosh and emitted it in Bohemia. The following was inscribed in the obverse, around a crown design in the center: "Wenceslaus secundus" and "Dei Gratia Rex Boemie." On the reverse around the coat of arms was found, "Grossi Pragenses." From the Latin "grossi," this coin became the "grosh" among the Czechs. Elsewhere, it became famous as the Prague grosh, often also called the Czech grosh.

The Prague grosh has played an important part in historical Lithuanian life. Especially the groshes of the later Czech rulers: John I of Luzemburg (1311-1347), Carl I (1346-1378), Václav IV (1378-1419). Appearing in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania almost from the beginning of their striking, those groshes began to spread rapidly in the country. And having acquired an influence, they began to compete with the locally cast kapos. And though their weight and metallic composition (like almost all other European coins of the time) began to deteriorate slightly, they nevertheless remained proportionately better than the coins of other countries. So in Lithuania, trading alongside of the kapos, they not only gained further popularity, as if they were at home, but gained a parallel position with respect to the local money. Eventually, they gained the unofficial position of the second money of the country. Lacking local small change, the Prague grosh performed a unit



Vaclavo II Pragos grašis.

7.

of monetary calculation. And when in the 6th decade of the 14th century, they began to strike their own coins, the Lithuanian Grand Dukes adapted them to the Prague grosh as though it were some kind of legal monetary measure. Though at the end of the 14th and the beginning of the 15th centuries, its own national coins were already in circulation, often agreements were concluded naming the Prague groshes as standard in Lithuania. For example, in 1417, when our own coins had been in circulation for over 50 years, the salary of the Bishop of Samogitia was set in Prague groshes. It was not until the 16th century that the newly appearing and widely spread Lithuanian grašis finally ousted the foreign grosh from Lithuanian life.

The Prague groshes here were divided into 60 units (kapos groshes). When the spread into Lithuania, it was noted that the gross weight of 60 contemporary Prague groshes equalled the weight of one long kapa. For example, Carl I grosh weighed about 3.3 gr., so 60 of them roughly equalled the same weight as the Lithuanian long kapa. Though the quantities of precious metals rarely balanced each other, as a practical matter, the units of both coins were accepted as equal. In that maner, alongside of the foundered kapos, there appeared and became accepted the new coin kapos, made up of 60 single coins. To distinguish them from the foundered bars, the new unit was called the "kapa of Prague groshes," and sometimes the "kapa of flat groshes," and eventually, with the national grašis well entrenched, "kapa of Lithuanian grašiai." Further, coins became "kapa of grašiai," and the foundered bar was the "long kapa," or in short, "the long one."

With the Prague grosh constantly deteriorating, while the foundred bars retaining their high position, 60 of these groshes became insufficient to equal one "long one) or replace it in a foundry. At the turn of the 14-15th centuries, the range of the "long kapa" rose to 100 Prague groshes. On the other hand, Lithuanian coins continued to be grouped under the old kapa unit, at 60 grašiai. Such a division continued even up to the beginning of the 19th century, until the ruble of occupying Russia became established in Lithuania.

PRAVARDEŠ/Nicknames. Various names attached to coins, developing in the common idiom for differing reasons. For example, already in ancient Greece, the silver stater of Aegina, on which a turtle is pictured, was nicknamed the "turtle." Persian coins showing a design of lanceman-bowman, were called "lancer." The Romans, with their copper As (picturing the two-faced Janus head) was denominated the "Janus." The schilling in England was nicknamed a "bob" for ages, while the 6 pence was a "tanner." Sigismund Augusts 4-grašiai piece with a portrait of the bearded ruler was a "bearded one." John Casimirs copper schilling, from its creator, Boratini, was a "baratinka," as was the Polish silver zloty, known as a "tympf," from its author, A. Tympfo. The German brackteates, "Schuesselmuenzen." In the Lithuanian Republic, "Smetonas 10 Litu piece," etc.

PREKYBINĖS MONETOS/Trade Coins. 1. Only state governments struck special coins, designed to ease the exchange of merchandize with foreign countries. They were produced adapted to the monetary standard and guaranteed by the government, of very stable weight and fineness, as fine as possible and serving only its selected cause. It was not considered legal tender in the place of its origin. Examples: In the 17th to 19th centuries, the Spanish, Venice, Holland, German solid silver talers, the USA "trade dollar" (1873-1885), the Austrian Maria Theresa 18th century taler, and the British dollar.



Prekyb. monetos:: Olandijos sid. taleris (1601); JAV "TRADE DOLLAR"
— prekybinis doleris (1885).

2. Other types of trade coins, good, valuable, widely accepted precious metal coins of any country, accepted in foreign lands without exception, as their own. These coins are produced domestically in larger amounts, and they are restruck by other nations and private merchants, always and everywhere striving for uniformity. For example, the German Reichstaler, the Florence gold florin, the French Louis d Or, and finally, the American silver dollar.

KAUNAS WILL HAVE ITS OWN COIN

By Renaldas Gabartas

[From *Kauno Diena* No. 76, April 3, 1999. Translated into English by Algirdas Kepalas]

This Tuesday already Lithuanian numismatists will be able to add to their collections a new commemorative coin of 10 litai, dedicated to the city of Kaunas. Director of Cashiers Department of the Bank of Lithuania Arūnas Dulkys invited the journalists to the christening of the new coin yesterday and told them about pretentious plans of the Mint of Lithuania.

The coin dedicated to Kaunas, the second of a special series of the towns of Lithuania, was conceived by the sculptor Rimantas Eidjėsus. This one, as the one dedicated to Vilnius which appeared in the fall, is made of copper and nickel alloy. The coin will weigh 13.15 gr., will be 28.7 mm. wide and its mintage will be 7,500 pieces. On the rim of the neat coin one will be able to read the inscription taken from the one woven on the official banner of Kaunas of interwar years: "Being Free, You will not Renounce Freedom."

On the coin dedicated to Kaunas, there are stamped pictures of buildings decorating the temporary capital: the Military Museum, City Hall, Resurrection Church, Perkūnas building, Cathedral, Vytautas Church and the present coat-of-arms of the city. It is interesting to note that every coin was made by six strokes of a special stamping tool which uses 150-600 ton force on the planchet.

A. Dulkys remarked that the Mint of Lithuania which started operating only 9 years ago has rapidly and successfully managed to acquire the technology of manufacturing the coins and to issue not only all the Lithuanian litai and centai in circulation, but 18 commemorative coins, too. The total of the latter reaches 80,000 units. Moreover, the Lithuanian Mint won an international competition last year and issued a 5 litai silver UNICEF coin which is distributed throughout the world. A. Dulkys maintains that if present negotiations will end with success, there will be a possibility that we shall mint the coins of neighboring countries: neither Latvians nor Estonians have their own mints.

Concerning one of the most interesting designs, the Cashiers Department director mentioned participation in an international project "Smallest gold coins in the world, History of Gold." If the negotiations with the organizers of this project will end successfully, already at the end of this year or the beginning of the next there could be issued



in 5,000 units a golden 10 litų coin of weight of 1 gram which would reflect the history of Lithuanian gold. Corresponding coins have been issued by quite a few countries. For the Bank of Lithuania this would be a second gold coin, after the very successful coin to commemorate 75 years of the Bank of Lithuania and of the litas, a coin of 1 litas nominal of the highest fineness of gold and 7.78 grams weight. This coin became a numismatic rarity the same day when it was put into circulation, because 1,500 units were bought up by collectors during a few hours.

Next should appear coins dedicated to Vincas Kudirka, to Grand Duke Kęstutis and to the 10th anniversary of the Baltic Way. The latter one will probably be coined in 1 million quantity, the number of Lithuanians then participating in this impressive unity action. Next year the Bank of Lithuania hopes to conclude the series of coins of Lithuanian rulers. The last one will perpetuate the memory of Vytautas the Great and will comprise two coins: the usual 50 litų of silver and one of 100 litai, golden. Also there are plans to issue a coin dedicated to the Olympic Games of Sidney and a coin to commemorative Lithuanian engineer Kazimieras Simanavičius who about 200 years ago wrote a treatise "Art of Artillery." Among more distinct plans of the Lithuanian Mint: commemoration of Jonas Basanavičius, and M. Valančius, and in 2001 should appear the third coin of the Lithuanian towns, dedicated to Klaipėda.

CONCERNING THE 1559 DENAR OF SIGISMUND AUGUST

From: KOLEKCIJA, Nr. 6, 1998. Pg. 56.

By Aleksandras Kubilas

Translated by Algirdas Kepalas

Sigismund August minted denars of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania during 17 years, 1545-1560, 1563. 16 of those years the denars were struck without errors, but denars of 1559 also appear with wrong dates: since 1914 this coin (according to Gumowski) it was known having a wrong date of 15599 while in 1968 the same author discovered a coin with a different wrong 1599 date (it is attributed to the 1559 denar, too).

Around 1968-70 the author of this article succeeded finding a denar with a wrong 15559 date. about a decade later, 1976, E. Kopicki in his catalogue quoted only one wrong date of this small denar, 15599. But in the catalog of 1995 instead of a wrong date 15599 he already shows another denar with a wrong 15559 date, the same as the coin of the author of this article. Only in his coin the central digit 5 is shown (in the text) half a digit lower.

There is quite a number of literature and catalogues about coins of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.



1:3 originalas ir piešinys

It is somehow mysterious. Even among Polish numismatists M. Gumowski and E. Popicki there is no agreement about these errors (see the table).

*In the foreign catalogues (except P. Karazijas studies of Vilnius, Aluona-Šklėriai and Krūminiai hoards, J. Karys monograph of Ancient Coins of Lithuania, and J. Tyszkiewicz Guide of Coins of Lithuania published in Warsaw in 1875), coins of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania used to be combined with the coins of Poland, but since 1995 (price list since 1996) the catalogue of Coins of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania put together by Sajauskas and Kaubrys (the authors received an award

DESCRIPTION TABLE OF THE 1559 DENAR

Author of Description	Title of the Catalog	Catalog No.	True or Wrong Date	Rarity	Notes
E. Hutten-Čapskis	Catalogue de la col. ...- Paris, 1871. - Vol. I.	510	1559	RRR	No wrong dates
E. Kopickis	Podstawowych typów monet. - Warszawa, 1976	15 a 15 b	1559 <u>15599</u>	R <u>RRR</u>	
S. Sajauskas ir D. Kaubrys *	Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės numizmatika. - Vilnius, 1993	510 674(1914) (1968)	1559 <u>15599</u> <u>1599</u>	<u>RRR</u>	— according to: — pagal E. Hutten-Čapskį " M. Gumovskį " M. Gumovskį (Monety a..., p.555-557)
E. Kopickis	Ilustr. skorowidz - Warszawa, 1995	3217 3218	1559 <u>15559</u>	RRR <u>RRRRRR</u>	
A. Kubilas	-	-	1559 <u>15559</u>	RRR <u>RRRRRR</u>	discovered about 1968-1970

When you start comparing data about a coin from different catalogues, you notice how coins of the same year appear with different legends or wrong dates with the passing time. Perhaps they were found while searching through unknown collections or maybe newly discovered hoards disclosed their secrets. This is nothing unusual: coin dies did not wear out before long, and their makers as all the mortals erred at all times. But why did so often did the denar die makers of 1559 err?

from the Bank of Lithuania in 1998) is often used next to the Hutten-Czapski catalogue in the world now.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The master copy of the January-February 1999 issue of The Knight which I sent to our Director on January 10 via the U.S. Postal Service to get printed was finally delivered by them on July 1!!! A small handwritten word in black ink on the envelope only stated "Misplaced." --F. Passic, EDITOR.

10. WANT/FOR SALE ADS

WANTED: I collect phone *tokens* (not phone cards) worldwide. I need some from Scandinavia, South African and South American Countries. Victor Zilaitis, 2018 Heathfield Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573. Please let me know what you have for sale.

FOR SALE: The last of my 1991-dated Lithuanian banknotes in UNC: P-47b 10 litų Darius/Girėnas, WITHOUT the "dot" variety \$8; P-47b with dot \$6; P-50 100 litų \$35.

Later notes in UNC: P-53 1994 1 litas Žemaitė \$1.50; P-54 1993 2 litai (Valančius) \$2; P-56 1993 Darius/Girėnas \$6; P-57 20 litų (Maironis) \$10; P-58 (Basanavičius) \$20.

Rare banknotes of Polish occupation of Vilnius, 1920: 1 Mark UNC with stamp, \$75; 10 Marks EF with spots, \$75; 20 Marks F-VF \$85.

"Temporary" Bank of Lithuania banknotes of 1922. Begin your collection now! P-1 1 centas UNC \$55; AU \$45. P-2 5 centai UNC \$50; XF \$40; P-3 20 centu (SCARCE!!) XF \$85; P-4 50 centu (SCARCE!!) VF \$65.

"Permanent" series of November 16, 1922: P-7 1 centas, UNC \$45; 2 centu UNC \$50; EF \$40; VF \$23; P-9 5 Centai EF \$40; VF \$28; P-10 10 centu UNC \$70; EF \$50; P-11 20 centu (Scarce!!) UNC \$100; EF \$80; P-12 50 centu Fine \$25; P-13 1 litas, (Very Scarce!) VF \$135.00; P-20 100 litų Specimen UNC (Price on Request).

Notes printed in England: P-21 500 litų (Very Scarce!) XF \$475. P-23 10 litų 1927 XF \$55; P-24 50 Litu PAVYZDYS A000,000 Specimen UNC \$225; circulation VF \$25; P-25 100 litų EF \$55; VF \$35. P-26 5 litai 1929 Fine \$15. P-27 20 litų 1930 XF \$60; VF \$35.

Contemporary 50 litų commemorative silver proof coins, \$43 each (includes postage): 1995 Čiurlionis; 1996 January 13; 1996 Mindaugas; 1996 Gediminas; 1996 Atlanta Olympics with naked Lithuanian basketball players; 1998 Mickevičius.

FRANK PASSIC, 900 S. Eaton St., Albion, MI 49224.

LNA MEETING

(Continued from page 1....)

complete set of 1938 2 litai Smetona patterns; a 1925 5 centai obverse pattern struck in nickel, and others.

Robert Douchis unveiled his (and Eugenijus Ivanauskas) new book at the LNA meeting, and explained to the group about his numismatic experiences in Lithuania during the past few years. Anthony Tumonis also spoke about his trips to Lithuania in recent months. Both agreed that coin prices are now high in Lithuania, and that high quality coins (Uncirculated) are hard to find.

At the ANA Convention, Junior member Michael A. Bearman of Albion, Michigan (nephew of Frank Passic) took first place in his Junior Division age group for his display of Lithuanian coins currently in use. Frank Passic received a second place award in the Foreign Paper Money category for his display on Pre-World War II Litas Banknotes of the Bank of Lithuania.

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61. Alex denare gothic A VF \$45	105. 1559 gros R5 XF \$200	148. 1594 XF \$50
62. Alex denare roman A VF+ \$49	106. 1566 aVF \$80	149. 1595 XF \$50
62a half gros F-VF \$25	107. 1567 typ. wk ctrs VF \$75	150. 1597 VF \$45
	108. 1568 same bold VF \$100	151. 1597 XF \$60
63. 1509 half gros VF \$20		
64. 1510 VF \$20	109. 1562 3 gros VF \$75	152. 1652 schilling VF \$15
65. 1511 VF \$20	110.-113. 1563 VF \$65 ea.	
65a. 1511 F-VF \$15	114.-115. 1564 VF \$65 ea.	153. 1652 gros 1 year type, rev. off ctr. date off flan, still nice VF \$200
66. 1512 VF \$20		
66a. 1513 F-VF \$15	116. 1566 4 gros VF \$75	
67. 1514 VF \$20	117. 1566 VF \$75	154. 1664 6 gros F \$70
68. 1517 F-VF \$15	118. 1568 VF \$75	155. 1665 F \$70
69. 1518 VF \$20	119. 1568 VF \$75	
70. 1521 VF \$25	120. 1569 VF \$80	
72. 1525 VF \$45		
73. 1527 VF \$40	121. 1580 3 gross VF \$45	
	122. 1582 VF \$50	
75. 1536 gros I VF \$100	123. 1583 VF \$45	
	124. 1583 VF \$50	
77. 1559 denare XF \$60	125. 1586 aVF \$40	
78. 1566 2 denare VF \$45	127. 1620 2 denare VF \$20	
79. 1569 VF \$50	128. 1621 VF \$25	
80. 1546 half gros XF \$40	129. (16)15 schilling AU \$25	
82. 1547 aVF \$25	129a. 1617 obv. off ctr. AXF \$10	
82a. 1547 VF \$30	130. (16)19 VF \$20	
87. 1550 XF \$30		
88. 1550 tarnish XF \$25	131. 1607 gros VF+ \$80	
90. 1553 R3 aXF \$75	132. 1607 VF \$60	
91. 1555 VF \$25	133. 1609 flan sl. wave VF \$40	
92. 1556 XF \$30	134. 1615 R4 XF \$100	
93. 1556 VF \$25	135. 1625 VF \$50	
94. 1556 VF \$25	136. 1625 F \$35	
95. 1557 VF \$25	137. 1626 F \$15	
96. 1558 VF \$25	138. 1626 VF \$30	
97. 1558 XF \$30	139. 1627 VF \$30	
98. 1559 VF \$25	140. 1627 VF+ \$35	
99. 1559 VF \$25	141. 1627 VF+ \$35	
100. 1546 gros Lith. Std. R3 VF \$150	143. 1592 3 gros VF \$40	
101. 1546 another F-VF \$125	144. 1593 VF \$45	
102. 1546 gros Pol. Std. VF+ \$125	145. 1593 sl. flan clip XF \$50	
103. 1546 another VF+ \$125	147. 1594 XF \$50	
104. 1555 gros R5 XF \$200		

